

REMARKS

In response to the election of species requirement, applicant hereby traverses the restriction requirement and provisionally elects Group II, including claims 25-36, and 73-89.

The Official Action attempts to restrict claims 1-24, 37-56, and 114-122 from Group II by stating that the claimed process could be "practiced by telephone, at a flea market or swap meet." Applicant disagrees with such an interpretation. The Official Action fails to show how steps such as "storing of the offer of the first user by the exchange system" (claim 1) and "wherein the storing step uses a database to store the offer " are present in such a flea market environment or would be performed by a materially different apparatus or by hand. Despite these shortcomings, Applicant has amended the claims to make it more clear that the described methods are for electronic exchanges. Accordingly, the applicant traverses the restriction between Group I and Group II.

If necessary, applicants request that this response be considered a request for an extension of time appropriate for the response to be timely filed. Applicants request that any required fees needed beyond those submitted with this amendment be charged to the account of Baker & Daniels LLP, Deposit Account No. 02-0390.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below should any question or comment arise during reconsideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Ryan C. Barker, Reg. No. 47,405

BAKER & DANIELS LLP

300 North Meridian Street, Suite 2700

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Tel: (317) 237-8690

Fax: (317) 237-1000